

a linear light source disposed on said incidence side surface of said light pipe, said linear light source having an effective light emission region which is longer than a longitudinal length of said incidence side surface,

whereby [said] information light [incident] generated on the lower surface of said light pipe is transmitted and made visible through the upper surface of said light pipe.

2. (Previously Amended) A plane light source unit according to claim 1, wherein:
said light output means of said light pipe has a repetitive structure of prism-like irregularities arranged at intervals of a pitch in a range of from 50 μm to 1.0 mm, each of said prism-like irregularities being constituted by a combination of a short side surface and a long side surface;

said short side surface is made of a slope inclined down from said incidence side surface toward an end side opposite to said incidence side surface at an inclination angle in a range of from 30 to 45 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said lower surface; and

said long side surface is made of a slope having an inclination angle in a range of from 0 to 10 degrees with respect to said reference plane, so that a difference between the inclination angles is not larger than 5 degrees as a whole, the difference between the inclination angles of adjacent long side surfaces is not larger than 1 degree, and a projected area of said long side surface on said reference plane is not smaller than five times as large as that of said short side surface.

3. (Original) A plane light source unit according to claim 2, wherein said prism-like irregularities constituting said light output means of said light pipe have ridgelines each having an inclination in a range of ± 30 degrees with respect to a reference plane of said incidence side surface.

Claim
4. (Previously Amended) A plane light source unit according to claim 3, wherein each end of said effective light emission region of said linear light source protrudes by a distance not smaller than a value calculated by an expression: $1 \text{ mm} + d \cdot \sin\theta + d/2$, from a corresponding end surface of said light pipe corresponding to a side in which said ridgeline of said prism-like irregularities of said light pipe drifts apart from said linear light source,

wherein θ is an inclination angle of said ridgeline of said prism-like irregularities with respect to said incidence side surface, and

d is a distance between said incidence side surface and a front end surface of said linear light source.

5. (Original) A reflection type liquid-crystal display device comprising a plane light source unit according to claim 1, and a liquid-crystal cell disposed on a lower surface of said plane light source unit, said liquid-crystal cell including a reflection layer.

6. (Original) A reflection type liquid-crystal display device comprising a plane light source unit according to claim 2, and a liquid-crystal cell disposed on a lower surface of said plane light source unit, said liquid-crystal cell including a reflection layer.

7. (Original) A reflection type liquid-crystal display device comprising a plane light source unit according to claim 3, and a liquid-crystal cell disposed on a lower surface of said plane light source unit, said liquid-crystal cell including a reflection layer.

8. (Original) A reflection type liquid-crystal display device comprising a plane light source unit according to claim 4, and a liquid-crystal cell disposed on a lower surface of said plane light source unit, said liquid-crystal cell including a reflection layer.
